



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Bill No. 5016

LCO No. 743

* ____HB05016ENV__030906____*

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:

REP. WARD, 86th Dist.

SEN. DELUCA, 32nd Dist.

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CONNECTICUT STATE PARK
FOUNDATION.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) (a) There is established a
2 Connecticut State Park Foundation, the resources of which shall be
3 used by the Connecticut State Park Foundation Council established
4 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section to fund programs and
5 projects that support the infrastructure and operations of Connecticut's
6 state parks and forest recreation areas. The resources of the foundation
7 shall be in addition to resources otherwise appropriated by the state
8 for such programs and projects. The foundation shall be organized and
9 comply with the provisions of sections 4-37e to 4-37k, inclusive, of the
10 general statutes. The foundation shall be subject to the provisions of
11 chapter 14 of the general statutes and subject to the same conditions
12 and exceptions of said chapter 14 as a state agency. The foundation
13 may apply for and accept any state, federal or private funds and shall
14 administer such funds in the manner required by applicable law. The
15 foundation may receive money or grants and goods, services and gifts

16 and may operate in cooperation with and contract for services with
17 other foundations. The books and records of the foundation shall be
18 subject to audit by the Auditors of Public Accounts.

19 (b) There shall be established a Connecticut State Park Foundation
20 Council composed of eleven members as follows: (1) The
21 Commissioners of Environmental Protection and Public Works and the
22 executive director of the Connecticut Commission on Culture and
23 Tourism, or their designees; and (2) the following eight public
24 members, to be appointed by the Governor and whose terms shall be
25 coterminus with the term of office of the Governor: (A) A
26 representative of a state-wide association dedicated to the promotion
27 of parks, forests and hiking trails, (B) a representative of the state-wide
28 organization Friends of Connecticut State Parks, Inc., (C) a
29 representative of a Friends of Connecticut State Parks, Inc.
30 organization from a shoreline state park; (D) a representative of a
31 Friends of Connecticut State Parks, Inc. organization from an inland
32 state park; (E) two representatives of the business community with
33 experience in fund-raising; and (F) two other individuals with
34 experience in fund-raising. Members shall serve until their successors
35 are appointed. Vacancies in memberships shall be filled by the
36 Governor for the balance of the term vacated. The council shall solicit
37 and accept funds on behalf of the Connecticut State Park Foundation
38 established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, to be used for
39 programs and projects that support the infrastructure and operations
40 of Connecticut's state parks and forest recreation areas. The council
41 shall adopt policies and procedures for the acceptance and expenditure
42 of such funds.

43 (c) The council shall seek to develop public and private partnerships
44 with organizations, institutions, corporations and individuals who
45 share an interest in stewardship of state park and forest recreation
46 areas. The goal of such partnerships shall be to provide a public benefit
47 consistent with the mission of the state in managing its assets. Such
48 partnerships shall be designed to increase the ability of the

49 Department of Environmental Protection to be a stronger steward of
50 state park and forest assets. The Commissioner of Environmental
51 Protection may place reasonable conditions on any donation to ensure
52 that the general statutes, regulations of Connecticut state agencies and
53 policies of the department are complied with. No improvements to
54 state property pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be made
55 without the written approval of the Commissioners of Environmental
56 Protection and Public Works.

57 (d) On or before July 1, 2007, and annually thereafter, the
58 Connecticut State Park Foundation Council shall report, in writing, to
59 the Governor concerning the source and amount of funds received by
60 said council and by the Connecticut State Park Foundation and the
61 manner in which such funds were administered and disbursed. The
62 initial report shall include information on the policies and procedures
63 developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2006	New section

ENV *Joint Favorable*